



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland
Northern Division*

*Thomas M. DiBiagio
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*6625 United States Courthouse
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

**JULY 22, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT
VICKIE E. LEDUC, AUSA
410-209-4885**

MAN SENTENCED TO 45 MONTHS FOR CREDIT CARD FRAUD

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that today United States District Court Judge Catherine C. Blake sentenced Andre Elroy Williams, age 30, of Baltimore, Maryland to 45 months in prison arising from his guilty plea to possession of stolen mail and use of unauthorized credit cards.

According to the statement of facts made part of the plea agreement, in October 2001 Andre Williams purchased a black Nissan Maxima automobile from Busam Motors, in Cincinnati, Ohio using the name and personal identifying information of Kenneth Williams. In connection with this purchase, Andre Williams obtained a loan from Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation in the name of Kenneth Williams. As a result, Busam Motors suffered a loss of \$29,702.

On December 13, 2001 officers searched the defendant's residence and found letters and mail that Williams knew had been stolen from numerous individual mail boxes and mail receptacles. Law enforcement agents found a number of credit cards in the names of individuals other than the defendant, including a VISA card issued by a financial institution outside of Maryland on November 26, 2001. Williams used this card a number of times which resulted in a loss to the financial

institution of \$2,154.43. Williams also possessed a VISA card issued by a financial institution outside of Maryland on October 15, 2001. Williams used this card a number of times, which resulted in a loss to the financial institution of \$18,257.25.

Law enforcement agents also found numerous Sprint PCS cell phones and receipts for the purchase of those cell phones. Williams purchased and used these cell phones under an account which he established in his name on July 7, 2001 fraudulently using the title President of Graystone Mortgage Company, for which Sprint PCS incurred losses of \$24,816.53. Williams has never been the President of Graystone Mortgage. Several computers, software, a printer, a scanner, and related equipment, which were used to prepare counterfeit identifications, checks and other access devices were also found. Agents found numerous counterfeit identification cards and checks that had been prepared using said device-making equipment.

In late March 2002, Andre Williams used checks from an account in the name of Aarsand Management to purchase merchandise from various stores in the total amount of \$9811.79. Williams has never worked for or been associated with Aarsand Management, and was not authorized to make purchases using these checks.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and U.S. Secret Service and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Paul Tiao.